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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

ESCH ET AL.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application Serial No.: 08/870,591

Examiner: HENDRICKSON, S.L.

Filed: June 6, 1997

Title: PRECIPITATED SILICA

October 7, 2003

\* \* \* \* \*

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.96, 1.97, and 1.98, the applicants request consideration of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. As these documents are U.S. patents, copies of the cited documents are not enclosed.

The applicants do not waive any rights to appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application. This statement should not be construed as a representation that more material information does not exist or that an exhaustive search of the relevant art has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be fully compliant with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.96, and 1.97. However, should the examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, the applicants earnestly solicit prompt notice to that effect, along with additional time under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(f) to enable the applicants to comply fully.

The applicants respectfully request consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-identified application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed along with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Therefore the applicants believe that no fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 

Gautam Prakash, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 53,481

Direct Telephone No.: 703-905-2031

P.O. Box - 10500  
McLean, VA 22102

General Telephone No.: 703-905-2000  
General Facsimile No.: 703-905-2500



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PTO/8B/08a (05-08)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

## Complete if Known

Application Number 08/870,591  
 Filing Date 08/08/1997  
 First Named Inventor HEINZ ESCH  
 Art Unit 1754  
 Examiner Name Hendrickson, S.L.  
 Attorney Docket Number 021123-0238397

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number/Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US- 5,256,196	October 26, 1993	Chionowski et al.	
	2	US- 5,484,581	January 16, 1996	Esch et al.	
	3	US- 5,705,137	January 6, 1998	Goerl et al.	
	4	US- 5,846,506	December 8, 1998	Esch et al.	
	5	US- 5,859,117	January 12, 1999	Goerl et al.	
	6	US- 5,871,867	February 16, 1999	Rausch et al.	
	7	US- 5,925,708	July 20, 1999	Esch et al.	
	8	US- 6,180,076	January 30, 2001	Uhrlandt et al.	
	9	US- 6,214,383	April 10, 2001	Esch et al.	
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number/Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	†

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with first communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WFO Standard ST 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WFO Standard ST 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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